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A.G.

Messrs. Torrey & Gray.

LIBRARY  
NEW YORK  
BOTANICAL  
GARDEN.

I take the liberty of  
addressing you by letter since I have taken upon  
myself the privilege of forwarding to you a Copy of  
our Manual of Botany, which you <sup>will</sup> no doubt receive  
before you receive this. I have sent it directly to  
Wiley & Putnam, by the hand of a merchant of  
our city, who left last week.

I feel it a privilege to state to you, who are  
labouring so devotedly and successfully in the field  
of Botany, the objects aimed at in my work.

I have endeavoured to place in the hands of our  
Southern students, a book which shall contain  
a brief description of <sup>all</sup> our common plants, and  
arranged entirely by Natural Orders. I do not offer  
it as a complete work on Southern Botany, as I  
have in my possession many plants which are not  
described in this Manual. Being uncertain with  
regard to some of them and they not being common I  
have omitted them till more certainty can be attained.  
I have introduced <sup>but</sup> none of which I felt myself certain  
of ~~may~~ being correct. I have followed the arrangement which  
I thought best at the time of writing, but some parts of which I



I would now alter. I do not know what you will think of my Analysis. Perhaps you would prefer the Linnaean System for determining the Genera. I have used this Analysis in Classes for several years and I succeed with it much better than with the Linnaean System. It may be much improved however, I could alter it now for the better. You will notice the misplacing of Apetalar. It was done in moving forth this city and the copy became damaged and this part was not observed till the first proof of the Endogrus was printed. The leaving out of these genera forming the Appendix was the carelessness of the Compositors. Not expecting such a thing and not correcting by the copy ~~they~~ I did not notice these <sup>omissions</sup> till the work was nearly completed.

You may recollect that I called on you a year ago last December. You might have thought it singular, if you thought of it at all, that I should leave New York without calling on you again according to appointment.

I was taken sick that night and was not able to be out till it was absolutely necessary for me to leave for home; leaving nearly all my business in New York under the exposure to the tremendous storm on my way to N.Y. gave me such a cold that I was feebly all winter.

The preparation of my Book and the management of a large Female Boarding School has compelled me to abstain from all use of my time for other purposes. I calculate on



deriving great aid from you which incl<sup>y</sup>. from your  
counsel, <sup>at</sup> herbarium & Library, but failed in even saying a word  
on subjects ~~for~~ on which I would have given much for your  
opinion. In fact, I did nothing, that I intended in reference  
to Botany. I have done the best I could without counsel or  
aid. <sup>our Book</sup> It has the effect of exciting interest on the  
subject it will accomplish much in the region for  
which it is intended. It has been better received from  
our old Botanists than I had reason to expect. I believe  
I sent you a Notice of Dr. Greene's <sup>which you will perceive is not a very discriminating one</sup> Editor of the Telegraph;  
he ~~was~~ assisted Elliott in the preparation of his work  
twenty years ago, and is a very good Botanist. I expect  
a very different ~~not~~ notice from him as then old men are  
very much ~~prejudiced~~ prejudiced against the <sup>use of</sup> Natural System,  
and the Dr. is very caustic, as they say here.

I am about to start for a tour through the lower  
part of this State, and the Islands of the coast, and the  
northern part of Florida. I hope to find something new.  
Could I be of any service to you now, at this late hour,  
by sending you any plants that I have or may collect, I  
shall do it with much pleasure. Complete confinement  
the impatience duties has prevented my doing it heretofore  
but now my Book is out, and my situation not requiring  
more than half the labour that the one I have occupied formerly  
did. I ~~am~~ intend devoting myself to the investigations of  
the science of Botany in all its departments.



I need not tell you that any suggestion from you in refer-  
-ence to my work would be most gratefully <sup>received</sup> in reference to  
matter or arrangement. I should be glad, by my own labours,  
and the aid of others, to make it worthy to be one of the stip-  
-ing stones to the Temple you are building. I have no other  
object than the advancement of the Science of Botany in our

Wm. Torrey & Gray  
New York City

Has charge Box No. 28

Institutions of learning where it is now in a disgracefully  
low state. I know <sup>a</sup> Professor who has never studied or taught  
any other book than Mrs. Linnaeus's Botany, and that too in  
Georgia, and not one tenth of the plants growing in his neighbourhood  
of course can be known to him.

Yrs. Most Respectfully, J. Darby